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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 5 December 1990 from the Permanent Representative of the Maldives to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government I have the honour to forward herewith the Malé Declaration and the joint press release of the Fifth Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), held in Malé, Republic of Maldives, from 21 to 23 November 1990.

Therefore I should like to take this opportunity to request Your Excellency to kindly make the necessary arrangements to issue the Malé Declaration and the joint press release as official documents of the United Nations.

(Signed) Hussein MANIKFAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

FIFTH SAARC SUMMIT

FIFTH MEETING OF THE
HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT

MALÉ DECLARATION

Malé, 23 November 1990

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MALÉ DECLARATION

The Malé Declaration of the Heads of State or Government of the Member Countries of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation issued on 23rd November 1990.

The President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, His Excellency Mr. Hussain Muhammad Ershad, the King of Bhutan, His Majesty King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, His Excellency Mr. Chandra Shekhar, the President of the Republic of Maldives, His Excellency Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, the Prime Minister of Nepal, The Right Honourable Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif and the Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, His Excellency Mr. Dingiri Banda Wijetunga met at the Fifth Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation at Malé on 21-23 November 1990.

2. The Heads of State or Government reiterated that cooperation among the countries of South Asia was necessary for improving the quality of life of the peoples of the region. They recalled their conviction that the objectives of peace and stability in South Asia could be best served by fostering mutual understanding, cooperation and good neighbourly relations. They reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and renewed their resolve to intensify cooperation under its aegis in pursuit of their common objectives.

3. The Heads of State or Government stressed their desire to promote peace, stability, amity and progress in the region through strict adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter and the Non-aligned Movement, particularly respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, national independence, non-use of force, non-interference in the internal affairs of other States and peaceful settlement of disputes.

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4. The Heads of State or Government expressed satisfaction that the launching of SAARC in 1985 and the initiatives under the Integrated Programme of Action for strengthening regional cooperation in South Asia had generated much enthusiasm and hope in their peoples, and that the South Asian consciousness necessary for the success of regional cooperation was gradually permeating the region. They reiterated their resolve to make optimal use of the positive forces of good-will, trust and understanding existing among their peoples and to turn SAARC into a dynamic instrument for achieving its objectives and creating an order based on mutual respect, equity, cooperation and shared benefits.

5. The Heads of State or Government reviewed the status of children in South Asia and noted that the recent World Summit for Children had imparted a new impetus to the ongoing efforts in this field. They believed that relevant recommendations of the World Summit could be usefully incorporated into a Plan of Action in the South Asian context and its implementation should be reviewed annually. The guidelines for such Plan of Action could be prepared by a panel of experts to be appointed by the Secretary-General and examined by the Technical Committee on Health and Population Activities. They also welcomed the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its entry into force. They expressed the hope that those Member States, who have not already become party to the Convention, would do so at an early date.

6. The Heads of State or Government endorsed the recommendations made by the Second SAARC Ministerial Meeting on Women in Development held in Islamabad in June 1990. They noted with satisfaction the enthusiastic response in all Member States to their collective call for the observance of 1990 as the "SAARC Year of the Girl Child". They decided that in order to maintain focus on the problems of the Girl Child, the years 1991-2000 AD should be observed as the "SAARC Decade of the Girl Child".

7. The Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction the growing regional cooperation in combating the problems of drug trafficking and drug abuse. They expressed serious concern over the growing linkages between drug trafficking

and international arms trade and terrorist activities. They agreed that observance of 1989 as the "SAARC Year for Combating Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking" had had a profound impact in drawing attention to the menace and to the need for its elimination. They expressed satisfaction that following the decision of the Fourth SAARC Summit, the SAARC Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances had been signed at Malé. They urged the Member States to take early measures to ratify the convention for its entry into force. They were convinced that the Convention would help in making SAARC efforts in this area more effective.

8. They endorsed the decision of the Council of Ministers in regard to the timeframe for completion of the Regional Study on the Causes and Consequences of Natural Disasters and the Protection and Preservation of the Environment. They noted with satisfaction that the methodology for undertaking the Study on the 'Greenhouse Effect' and its impact on the region was likely to be finalized in the near future and desired that the Study itself be completed for consideration at the Sixth Summit. In this context, they noted that the destruction of rainforests, the world over, was contributing significantly to adverse climatic changes and this aspect should also be covered in the proposed Study. They expressed the hope that these Studies would lead to an action plan for meaningful cooperation in the field of Environment and Disaster Management.

9. Recognizing that environment had emerged as a major global concern, the Heads of State or Government noted with alarm the unprecedented climatic changes predicted by the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). They urged the international community to mobilize additional finances and to make available appropriate technologies to enable the developing countries to face the new challenges arising from climate changes and sea-level rise. They agreed that Member Countries should coordinate their positions at international fora on this issue. They also decided to observe 1992 as the "SAARC Year of Environment".

10. The Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction that the national studies on Trade, Manufactures and Services had been completed. They underlined the need for expeditious action for completing the Regional Study

within the timeframe stipulated by the Council of Ministers. They expressed the hope that it would open new avenues of cooperation for the prosperity of the peoples of the region.

11. The Heads of State or Government approved the recommendations of the Council of Ministers regarding Special SAARC Travel Document and decided to launch the scheme.

12. The Heads of State or Government expressed concern that Member States were compelled to divert their scarce resources in combating terrorism. They called for expeditious enactment of enabling measures for the implementation of the SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism. They also urged Member States to continue to cooperate in accordance with the Convention.

13. The Heads of State or Government noted that as their countries stood on the threshold of the next millennium, the world was undergoing profound transformations characterised by popular upsurge for democracy, liberty and exercise of human rights, lowering of ideological barriers and the relaxation of global tensions and progress towards disarmament and the resolution of a number of regional and global conflicts. There was also a welcome trend towards the opening up of the global economy and integration of national economies into the mainstream of the world economy. They further noted the trend of increasing integration of the pattern of global production, consumption and trade, growing multipolarity of the world economic structure and integration of the markets of the developed countries in order to maintain their technological lead and competitive edge. These changes presented new challenges and opened up new opportunities to the South Asian countries, as to the rest of the developing world. The Heads of State or Government were convinced that their mutual cooperation can be a critical factor in enabling them to pursue these objectives more effectively.

14. The Heads of State or Government, noting the vital importance of bio-technology for the long-term food security of developing countries as well as for medicinal purposes, decided that cooperation should be extended to this field and,

in particular, to the exchange of expertise in genetic conservation and maintenance of germplasm banks. In this connection, they welcomed India's offer of training facilities and agreed that cooperation in the cataloguing of genetic resources stored in different SAARC countries would be mutually beneficial. Taking note of the proposal made by the Group of Fifteen Developing Countries (G-15) for the establishment of a gene bank for developing countries, they agreed to participate in this venture.

15. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the idea of setting up of a Fund for regional projects which could make available credit on easy terms for the identification and development of regional projects. They agreed that representatives of the national development banks of the Member Countries should get together to work out the precise modalities for the source of funds and the manner in which these could be related to joint venture projects. They accepted India's offer to host this meeting.

16. The Heads of State or Government regarded the recent developments in the Gulf as the most unfortunate aberration from the present trend of detente, cooperation and peaceful settlement of disputes. They reaffirmed their adherence to UN Security Council Resolutions on this issue. Emphasizing the need for a peaceful solution of the issue, they called for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of its legitimate Government. They stated that the Gulf crisis had dealt a severe blow to their economies. They needed massive international assistance to compensate the loss suffered by them due to a sharp decline in remittances, setback to their exports and severe strain on their balance of payments position imposed by increased oil prices. They recognized the potentiality of cooperation among themselves for mitigating the impact of these adverse consequences.

17. The Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction that the initiative of the Government of the Maldives for the Protection and Security of Small States at the UN in 1989, which they all supported, had also received overwhelming support of the international community. They agreed that, because of their particular

problems, small states merited special measures of support in safeguarding their independence and territorial integrity.

18. The Heads of State or Government expressed the hope that the talks between the two Super Powers on arms control would culminate in the conclusion of an agreement for substantial reduction in their nuclear arsenals leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons. While welcoming the measures being considered for arms reduction at the global level, they were convinced that the objective could be best achieved through the promotion of mutual trust and confidence among the Member States. They underlined the inherent relationship between disarmament and development and called upon all countries, especially those possessing the largest nuclear and conventional arsenals, to rechannel additional financial resources, human energy and creativity into development. They expressed their support for the banning of chemical weapons and early conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. In this context, they welcomed the convening of the UN Conference in January 1991 to consider amendments to the Partial Test Ban Treaty to convert it into a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

19. The Heads of State or Government expressed concern that the international economic environment for the developing countries had been characterised by negative resource flows, high trade barriers, serious external debt problems and high interest rates. The need of SAARC countries for increased concessional resources and technology as well as access to markets for their exports could not, therefore, be under-estimated. They called for collective efforts based on mutuality of interest and felt that regular North-South consultations were essential for ensuring equitable management of global interdependence.

20. The Heads of State or Government recalled the usefulness of the First Ministerial Meeting on International Economic Issues held in Islamabad in 1986. They agreed that the second such Ministerial Meeting be held in India in 1991 to review the outcome of the Uruguay Round and to coordinate positions at international conferences including the U.N. Conference on Environment and Development, 1992.

21. Notwithstanding the continuing efforts on the international economic plane, the Heads of State or Government emphasised the pressing need for the Ministerial Meeting to address itself vigorously to the objective of self-reliance. They directed the Ministers to prepare a strategy for mobilising regional resources which would encourage and strengthen individual and collective self-reliance in the region.

22. The Heads of State or Government expressed their support for the Paris Declaration (1990) and the Programme of Action adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. They called upon the international community to contribute to the successful implementation of the Programme of Action, which is of special importance for the socio-economic development of the region.

23. The Heads of State or Government recognized the imperative need for providing a better habitat to the peoples of South Asia through optimum utilization of indigenous technology, know-how and material, and decided that 1991 be observed as the "SAARC Year of Shelter".

24. The Heads of State or Government noted that millions of disabled persons lived in the SAARC region and immediate action was required to reduce their sufferings and to improve their quality of life. They decided to observe 1993 as the "SAARC Year of Disabled Persons".

25. The Heads of State or Government were particularly happy that the Fifth SAARC Summit coincided with the Twenty Fifth Anniversary of the Independence of the Maldives which provided them with the opportunity to express their solidarity with the people and the Government of the Maldives. They expressed their conviction that the Malé Summit had helped in consolidating the gains of regional cooperation and in strengthening the institutional base of SAARC.

26. The Heads of State or Government gratefully accepted the offer of the Government of Sri Lanka to host the Sixth SAARC Summit in 1991.

27. The Heads of State or Government of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka expressed their deep appreciation for the exemplary manner in which the President of the Maldives had discharged his responsibilities as Chairman of the Meeting. They expressed their profound gratitude for the warm and gracious hospitality extended to them by the Government and the people of the Maldives and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

ANNEX II

FIFTH SAARC SUMMIT

FIFTH MEETING OF THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Male , 23 November 1990

JOINT PRESS RELEASE
ISSUED ON 23 NOVEMBER 1990
AT THE END OF THE FIFTH SAARC SUMMIT, MALÉ

The President of Bangladesh, the King of Bhutan, the Prime Minister of India, the President of the Maldives, the Prime Minister of Nepal, the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka met at the Fifth Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation at Malé from 21-23 November 1990. The Meeting was held in an atmosphere of warmth, cordiality and mutual understanding.

2. The Heads of State or Government reaffirmed their commitment to the principles and objectives of SAARC and reiterated their resolve to intensify cooperation under its aegis. They issued the Malé Declaration.

3. They welcomed the signing of the SAARC Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances by the Ministers at Malé and undertook to take early measures to ratify the Convention.

4. The Heads of State or Government decided to launch the Special SAARC Travel Document which would exempt its holders from visas for travel within the region. They decided that Supreme Court Judges, Members of the National Parliaments, Heads of national academic institutions, their spouses and dependent children would be entitled to this Document.

5. The Heads of State or Government endorsed the decision of the Council of Ministers to launch the Scheme for the Promotion of Organised Tourism during the first half of 1991. They also welcomed the proposal for institutionalised cooperation among the tourist industries of the Member States with a view to attracting more tourists from outside the region.

6. They noted with satisfaction that all Member States had completed their national studies on Trade, Manufactures and Services. They underlined the need for completing the Regional Study within the stipulated time-frame.

7. They decided that measures for establishing joint ventures in the field of cottage industries and handicrafts should be taken up forthwith to set a stage for promoting collective self-reliance in the region. They directed the Secretary-General to appoint a group of 2-3 Experts selected from within the region, to prepare a paper suggesting the modalities for the setting up of joint ventures, sources of funding and other necessary details for consideration at the next meeting of the Council of Ministers.

8. The Heads of State or Government noted the proposal for the establishment of a SAARC Regional Fund and directed the Standing Committee to submit its recommendations on the proposal for consideration at the next session of the Council of Ministers.

9. The Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of cooperation among the SAARC Member States in the field of mass media and directed the Secretary-General to facilitate, under the auspices of SAARC, increased interaction among federations/associations of journalists, news agencies and mass media of the region.

10. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the decision authorizing the Secretariat to share information and exchange reports, studies and publications with the European Community (EC) and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), to begin with, in the identified areas of cooperation.

11. The Heads of State or Government expressed satisfaction that the work was well under way for the setting up of a nucleus Centre for Human Resource Development in Pakistan. They were of the view that the Centre would contribute towards optimizing regional cooperation in this vital field.

12. They called for early completion of a regional plan "SAARC 2000 - A Basic Needs Perspective" to facilitate activities within a broad framework of a long term perspective.

13. They directed that the theme of 'Poverty Alleviation' Strategies be discussed in depth by Planners for formulating suitable recommendations.

14. The Heads of State or Government decided that in order to maintain focus

on the problems of the Girl Child the years 1991-2000 AD would be observed as the "SAARC Decade of the Girl Child". They were deeply moved by the SAARC Girl Child's appeal for love and care for them and their right to childhood. They reiterated their resolve that the welfare of the child in general and the girl child in particular, would figure at the top of their list of priorities.

15. The Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of regular exchange of views among the representatives of the SAARC Member Countries at international economic fora with a view to concerting positions, as far as possible, on matters of common concern. They decided to hold the Second Ministerial Meeting on International Economic Issues in India in 1991.

16. The Heads of State or Government underlined the imperative need for providing a better habitat to the people of South Asia and decided that in order to focus attention on the problems of the Homeless, the Year 1991 be observed as the "SAARC Year of Shelter". They decided that each country would organise a series of events on this theme and share their experiences in order that the people of the region could derive practical benefit from the "SAARC Year of Shelter".

17. They directed that the Regional Study on the Causes and Consequences of Natural Disasters and the Protection and Preservation of the Environment and the Study on the 'Greenhouse Effect' and its impact on the region be finalized before the next Summit. They stressed that, pending the completion of the studies, Member States should take necessary steps at national levels in this vital field. They decided to observe 1992 as the "SAARC Year of the Environment".

18. The Heads of State or Government stressed that immediate action was required to reduce the sufferings of the millions of disabled people who lived in the SAARC region. In order to focus attention on their problems and to improve their quality of life, they decided to observe 1993 as the "SAARC Year of Disabled Persons".

19. They decided that appropriate programmes should be worked out for observing the SAARC Year of the Shelter 1991, the SAARC Year of the Environment 1992 and the SAARC Year of Disabled Persons 1993. In order to derive the maximum benefit and to sensitize the peoples in the region in the above vital fields, they noted that Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Pakistan respectively will circulate the recommended Plans of Action for implementation at national level.

20. The Heads of State or Government noted that SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC) was already functioning at Dhaka. They decided that the SAARC Tuberculosis Centre and the SAARC Documentation Centre would be set up in Nepal and India respectively. They directed that necessary steps to establish the two Centres should be taken up urgently.

21. The Heads of State or Government stressed the need for adopting a more business-like and functional approach in the conduct of meetings held under the aegis of SAARC. They requested the Chairman of the Fifth SAARC Summit and the President of Bangladesh to initiate consultations with the Member States in this regard.

22. The Heads of State or Government directed the Chairman of Council of Ministers to prepare recommendations on rationalizing SAARC activities with a view to promoting effective functioning of the Association.

23. The Heads of State or Government expressed appreciation for the pioneering work done by Ambassador Abul Ahsan, the first Secretary-General, during the formative years of the Secretariat. They welcomed his successor, Ambassador Kant Kishore Bhargava, and appreciated his valuable contribution to the on-going activities of SAARC.

24. They expressed profound happiness that the Fifth SAARC Summit coincided with the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Independence of the Maldives which provided them with an opportunity to express personally their solidarity with the people and the Government of the Maldives.

25. The Heads of State or Government gratefully accepted the offer of the Government of Sri Lanka to host the Sixth SAARC Summit in Colombo in 1991.

26. The Heads of State or Government highly appreciated the exemplary manner in which the President of the Republic of Maldives conducted the meetings of the Association as the Chairman of the Fifth SAARC Summit. They also expressed their sincere gratitude for the gracious hospitality extended to them by the Government and the people of the Republic of Maldives and for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference.

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Agenda item 79

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Letter dated 10 December 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the report of the Meeting on the Mediterranean of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, held in Palma de Mallorca from 24 September to 19 October 1990 (see annex).

I should be very grateful if you would have this text circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 79.

(Signed) Francisco VILLAR

Annex

REPORT OF THE MEETING ON THE MEDITERRANEAN OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE (CSCE)

The representatives of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, the Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Yugoslavia met at the CSCE Meeting on the Mediterranean held in Palma de Mallorca from 24 September to 19 October in accordance with the relevant provisions contained in the Concluding Document of the Vienna CSCE Follow-up Meeting 1986. The representative of the German Democratic Republic attended the Meeting until 2 October.

Representatives of the non-participating Mediterranean States (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia) and of the relevant bodies, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system (the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO)) were invited to participate in the Meeting in accordance with the Concluding Document of the Vienna CSCE Follow-up Meeting 1986 and participated in the work of the Meeting under the procedure set out in the invitation.

The representative of Albania attended the Meeting as an observer.

The formal opening was attended by His Majesty the King of Spain. The Meeting was opened by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs and closed by the Spanish Minister of Public Works and Urban Development, also responsible for the environment.

At the plenary meetings, statements were made by delegates of the participating States, among them members of governments as well as a member of the Commission of the European Communities. Contributions were also made by representatives of Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia, and of UNESCO, ECE and UNEP.

In the course of the Meeting, references were made to fundamental political changes that have occurred in Europe since the conclusion of the Vienna CSCE Meeting and to their positive relevance to the Mediterranean region.

The participating States recognized that the CSCE process had contributed significantly to bringing about these changes and that those developments had greatly advanced the implementation of the Final Act and of the other CSCE documents.

The participating States reaffirmed their commitment to all 10 principles of the Declaration on Principles guiding Relations between Participating States contained in the Final Act, and their determination to respect them and put them into practice.

The participating States expressed their conviction that full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the development of societies based on pluralistic democracy and the rule of law were prerequisites for progress in setting up a lasting order of peace, security, justice and co-operation.

They also supported continued efforts to implement the relevant recommendations of the CSCE Meetings on the Mediterranean held in Valletta in 1979 and in Venice in 1984.

The participating States reaffirmed their commitment to, and stressed the continuing relevance of, the provisions of the CSCE concerning security and co-operation in the Mediterranean. They reiterated their conviction that security in Europe was to be considered also in the broader context of world security and was closely linked with security in the Mediterranean area as a whole.

They expressed their concern over the continuing tensions in the region and renewed their determination to intensify efforts towards finding just, viable and lasting solutions, through peaceful means, to pending crucial problems, based on respect for the principles of the Final Act.

In the course of the Meeting a suggestion was made that, when circumstances allowed, a meeting outside CSCE could take place, which would draw on the experience of the CSCE process to discuss a set of generally accepted rules and principles relating to stability, co-operation and the human dimension in the Mediterranean.

The participating States, during their exchange of views on item 3 of the agenda, reaffirmed their will to strengthen their co-operation and intensify efforts aimed at further enhancing various aspects of co-operation, including the protection and improvement of Mediterranean ecosystems, with the objective of widening the scope of their co-operation with the non-participating Mediterranean States and contributing to the strengthening of stability in the region.

The presence of the eight non-participating Mediterranean States and their contribution to the Meeting were a positive development.

The participating States expressed the wish to promote favourable conditions for a harmonious development and diversification of relations with the non-participating Mediterranean States. They expressed their intention to work together with the non-participating Mediterranean States to expand their co-operation in various fields in order to promote favourable political, cultural and economic conditions.

The importance of developing intra-Mediterranean relations and, in particular, trade and economic co-operation in this region was stressed. That objective, together with the promotion of a sustainable development aimed at bringing the coastal countries closer together, required national efforts to identify adequate priorities, encourage the trend towards market economies and emphasize human rights. Based on respect for the Helsinki principles, such efforts should take into account political, cultural, religious and economic conditions in order to establish active co-operation between the participating and non-participating States.

The participating States noted the growing significance of ecological issues in the context of their co-operation within the CSCE framework. They recognized the need to provide for ecological stability in the Mediterranean. At the same time they underscored the importance of the global aspects, including the preparatory work for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

The marine and watercourse environment as well as land ecosystems in the Mediterranean had today become so fragile that the future of the region and its socio-economic development required an increased effort in various fields: protection of the sea; conservation of water resources; air-pollution prevention; sound waste management, especially for toxic wastes; forest-fire control and policies to combat desertification; protection of biological diversity, particularly of ecosystems and species; and development of environmentally sound tourism. The deterioration of the environment, including the cultural heritage, would be an additional threat to the political, social and economic balance in the region.

The participating States recognized the work being done to tackle the major environmental problems facing the Mediterranean region. Since the adoption of the Mediterranean Action Plan co-ordinated by UNEP in 1975, a major international effort had been undertaken involving several United Nations agencies, including ECE, UNEP, UNESCO, WHO, ITU, IMO, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as well as the European Communities and major international institutions such as the World Bank and the European Investment Bank. A number of key international instruments, notably the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols, had also been concluded. Those activities provided a solid basis for the proposals set out below, which are intended to support and where necessary, augment them.

The participating States recognized that all sectors of society, including governments, the public and industry, bore a responsibility for integrating environmental considerations into economic and social policy and decision-making, thereby contributing to sustainable development. Policies should be guided, inter alia, by the "polluter pays" principle and the "precautionary" principle. The participating States found it necessary to promote greater environmental awareness in the countries concerned by means of educational and vocational training measures and by information campaigns. They also underscored the importance of the contribution of persons and organizations dedicated to the

protection and improvement of the environment. They stressed the need to respect the right of such persons and organizations freely to express their concerns.

The participating States reaffirmed their willingness, expressed at the Sofia CSCE Meeting on the Protection of the Environment, to continue to promote exchanges of information and environmental data. Such co-operation should be of special significance in increasing the effectiveness of environmental protection measures in the Mediterranean.

Mediterranean co-operation would benefit from closer relations between participating States and non-participating States and should also include training, scientific and technological research, utilization of energy resources, statistical harmonization and environmentally sound technologies.

Subsidiary Working Body I dealt with item 4 of the agenda: Specific aspects of co-operation.

Subsidiary Working Body II dealt with item 5 of the agenda: Protection of Mediterranean ecosystems.

I. SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF CO-OPERATION

A. Examination of the opportunities offered for contributing to a more rapid social and economic development of the countries of the region, in particular those which are developing from an economic point of view

Positive political changes in Europe and economic dynamism, combined with improved market access, have been an important external factor in the economic, social and human rights development of the Mediterranean region. The participating States confirm their willingness to continue to co-operate, where appropriate, through a policy of friendly and open relations, with the non-participating Mediterranean States. It is also necessary that the non-participating Mediterranean States broadly liberalize intra-Mediterranean trade. The regional and subregional integration under way in the Mediterranean area among some non-participating Mediterranean States, especially if combined with an easing of political tensions, should lead to more intensive trade. Initiatives along those lines should be supported.

Co-operation projects and financial measures in this region should be co-ordinated, where appropriate, among donors and recipient States, and other relevant bodies, in order to avoid duplication. In some cases, projects should be carried out at the multilateral level to ensure maximum effectiveness. One of the main requirements for the creation of millions of jobs is the economic and political stability of the region. This in turn will only come about if there is a freer and more equitable political and economic environment, based on sustainable economic growth.

The participating States are prepared to co-operate with the non-participating Mediterranean States in meeting these challenges. To this end they will examine possibilities for achieving equitable market access and for improved financial, technical and economic co-operation, where considered appropriate by individual participating States. The guidelines for action in these fields in the Mediterranean should entail in particular:

(a) Support for more extensive regional co-operation and integration among Mediterranean countries;

(b) Intensified efforts regarding environmental projects in the countries concerned;

(c) Further support for private investment and joint ventures as a means of creating new employment opportunities;

(d) Effective use of forms of co-operation such as joint Mediterranean companies, consortia, and trade and business associations;

(e) More intensive dialogue with Mediterranean partners on fundamental issues of economic policy in particular;

(f) The need for policies aimed at economic and social development that incorporate environmental considerations and thereby promote sustainable development.

Financial assistance and other forms of co-operation alone cannot constitute an adequate response. The solution to the problems of the Mediterranean will be facilitated through far-reaching economic reforms, the introduction of market mechanisms, a real effort to tackle demographic problems, the promotion of political reforms aimed at achieving democracy and a multi-party system, and guarantees of human rights for all citizens. It is the economic, fiscal, legal and social infrastructure and the political conditions that determine the extent to which economic operators are prepared to engage in economic and industrial co-operation. The Mediterranean countries are encouraged to assess their capabilities and interests in this regard.

The participating States emphasize that rational development of transport infrastructure is of importance for co-operation with and within the Mediterranean region. They believe it is useful to continue the analysis of the current and the potential transport flows, in particular multimodal transport in the Mediterranean region. They note the fruitful work of ECE and UNDP, and the appropriateness of continuing this activity.

The participating States note the importance of continued comprehensive discussion of issues relating to the social and economic development of the countries of the region and co-operation among them. With this purpose in mind, relying on the work of the United Nations and other relevant international organizations, they also believe it is useful to seek adequate forums (conferences, expert meetings, round tables, study visits) to deal with economic co-operation by the Mediterranean and other States concerned.

The participating States welcome the Environmental Programme for the Mediterranean initiated in 1990 by the World Bank and the European Investment Bank.

B. Examination of possibilities for the harmonization of statistical methods

The aim is the publication and availability of comprehensive, comparable and updated economic, commercial and demographic data as an instrument for co-operation and as a basis for efficient business relations. To this end, the participating States express their view that a meeting of statistical offices of the Mediterranean countries could be convened by an appropriate institution, such as the ECE Conference of European Statisticians, to discuss harmonization of statistical methods and to consider possible assistance in the field of statistics.

C. Encouragement of contacts at various levels (expert meetings, round tables, study visits) with a view to contributing to the implementation of concrete programmes for co-operation

Contacts and co-operation among all the Mediterranean countries should be systematically encouraged since they are a source of peace, stability and economic development in the region. Such contacts should take place at governmental, non-governmental and people-to-people levels. Contacts in the form of expert meetings, round tables and study visits could deal with cultural, religious, human rights, demographic, environmental, agricultural, water resources, transport, communication and economic subjects, including small and medium-sized enterprises. The latter have a special role in the development of economic infrastructure in the region. The need for establishing economic, legal, banking and other conditions that would take into account the requirements of such enterprises could also be discussed in this context, together with arrangements providing them with the appropriate conditions.

D. Co-operation in the field of solar and wind energy

The Mediterranean offers excellent climatic conditions for the application of solar and wind energy. The uses of solar and wind energy as well as of other alternative and renewable energy sources, the adoption of energy saving measures and the setting up of pilot plants should be intensified. Consideration should be given to setting up - with suitable environmental precautions - solar, wind, biomass, geothermal and hydroelectric power plants to help solve the problems connected with environmental hazards and the depletion of fossil fuels. Exchange of information and regional co-operation in this field should thus be encouraged.

E. Consideration of questions relating to the conservation and restoration of historic centres and the preservation of the cultural heritage, including marine archeology

The protection, conservation, restoration and preservation of the cultural heritage, including historic monuments and their environment, are of great importance for the balanced development of the Mediterranean countries. The participating States appreciate and encourage the efforts being made to achieve these aims, within international organizations such as, inter alia, UNESCO or the programme within the Mediterranean Action Plan dealing with coastal historic sites of common interest. They appreciate and encourage contributions and expert co-operation aimed at the restoration of historic centres. The cultural, social and educational role of museums, the protection of submerged archeological remains, scientific work in this respect and measures to control the illegal sale of and illicit traffic in antiquities should also be encouraged. Meetings of experts from all countries concerned, including non-participating Mediterranean States, should be promoted with a view to the exchange of views and information on the cultural heritage, including underwater archaeology and the illegal sale of and illicit traffic in antiquities and, if deemed necessary, with a view to the introduction of effective measures to reinforce co-operation in a practical way.

II. PROTECTION OF MEDITERRANEAN ECOSYSTEMS

A. Urban, agricultural and industrial water uses and requirements in the Mediterranean countries

It is essential for all the Mediterranean countries to draw up and implement coherent long-term water supply policies which take account not only of the actual needs of the population and the production sectors concerned, but also of the need to preserve the environment and, in particular, to ensure that the ecological potential of the Mediterranean wetlands is not lost. Such policies should promote the efficient use of water, avoiding needless waste, and be based on a thorough analysis of the quantity and quality of available water resources. Particular attention should also be paid to establishing appropriate means for assessing the environmental impact of dams, aqueducts and other water resource development works.

The participating States declare their readiness to:

(a) Encourage the exchange of information on water resources in the Mediterranean Basin, taking advantage of the experiences of relevant organizations as well as the methodology of the Co-ordination-Information-Environment (CORINE) programme of the European Community and other programmes;

(b) Encourage consideration of the impact on the Mediterranean environment - including transboundary effects - of policies regarding water supply and the exploitation of water resources;

(c) Promote research and exchange of experience regarding the assessment of the environmental impact of water supply works and the exploitation of water resources;

(d) Support moves to ensure the efficient use and conservation of water resources, including awareness-promotion campaigns.

B. Pollution of surface and underground water and of the Mediterranean Sea

Controlling water pollution in the Mediterranean Basin is both an environmental policy objective and an economic necessity. Pollution of surface and underground water not only damages the environment, it also destroys an extremely scarce resource. The preparation and implementation of effective measures to protect watercourses and aquifers against pollution is therefore an absolute priority for the Mediterranean countries and should form a fundamental part of an integrated water-management policy.

The participating States intend to:

(a) Encourage the Mediterranean countries concerned to set up a legal and regulatory framework to help combat the pollution of surface and underground water and to set up appropriate administrative structures;

(b) Promote exchanges of information, and the establishment of arrangements to facilitate appropriate transfer of environmentally sound technologies to prevent and reduce the pollution of surface and underground water;

(c) Intensify international co-operation on the environmental protection of the Mediterranean, including co-operation among the participating States and non-participating Mediterranean States concerned.

Controlling the pollution of the Mediterranean is a key objective of the Barcelona Convention and the Protocols on pollution from land-based sources, dumping at sea and measures to control pollution by oil and other harmful substances, as well as of the Mediterranean Action Plan. Broader international support for these agreements could contribute to their more effective realization. Parties to these agreements are encouraged to strengthen implementation based on a substance-oriented approach, focusing on individual sectors or industries, as well as on a source-oriented approach, in order to maintain the quality of the marine environment in the Mediterranean and guarantee sustainable development.

The Genoa Declaration and the Charter on Euro-Mediterranean Co-operation concerning the environment in the Mediterranean Basin, referred to as the Nicosia Charter, stressed the reduction of pollution from land-based sources, in particular by adopting concrete measures concerning urban sewage and waste treatment and disposal.

The participating States should:

(a) Call on the Mediterranean coastal countries to continue implementation of the Barcelona Convention as well as the Protocols on pollution from land-based sources and dumping at sea and on co-operation in combating pollution by oil and other harmful substances;

(b) Call on all States to terminate the dumping at sea of harmful wastes, as well as incineration activities at sea, in accordance with appropriate global and regional agreements;

(c) Encourage - taking into account, in particular, the Genoa Declaration and the guidelines proposed by the signatories to the Nicosia Charter - the setting-up of urban-sewage treatment plants with at least biological treatment, where possible and appropriate; the establishment of emission limits based, to the extent possible, on the best available technologies that do not entail excessive costs and are specifically applicable to individual sectors or industries or to specific substances; the management, reduction and possible elimination of hazardous and toxic industrial waste; and the investment efforts undertaken in this respect;

(d) Encourage the use of clean production methods in order to reduce the generation of waste at source and encourage appropriate technology transfers and the acquisition of means for the prevention and reduction of sea pollution and for the treatment and disposal of waste;

(e) Urge the adoption of appropriate measures to apply the precautionary principle to waste management policy;

(f) Call on all States which have not yet done so to accede to and/or ratify as soon as possible the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, in order to reduce the transboundary movements of such wastes and ensure their disposal in an environmentally sound way;

(g) Express their support for the work of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in monitoring the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes in the Mediterranean and elaborating a regional agreement in accordance with the spirit of the Basel Convention;

(h) Encourage the reduction of the negative impact on Mediterranean ecosystems of agricultural practices that are not environmentally sound.

C. National, bilateral and international action to control and prevent pollution by national and transboundary waterways flowing into the Mediterranean and pollution by ships

The prevention, reduction and control of polluting waste from land sources which reaches the Mediterranean via watercourses is one of the basic objectives of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources. However, in spite of the measures adopted by the Contracting Parties pursuant to the Protocol, they are still a long way from bringing this type of pollution completely under control, since more investment is needed to treat household and industrial wastes and waste water that are currently discharged without adequate treatment.

Pollution from ships and the danger of accidents at sea present a continuous hazard to the coastal States of the Mediterranean, many of which have invested

heavily in industries that depend on a clean marine environment. Greater and more sustained efforts are required to implement various global and regional conventions aimed at preventing pollution from ships.

The participating States should therefore:

(a) Call on the coastal States to continue work on the implementation of the Protocol on pollution from land-based sources;

(b) Call on all States to prevent and phase out the discharges at sea from ships of oils and their mixtures and all noxious liquid substances, in accordance with global and appropriate regional standards and controls;

(c) Reconfirm their support for the recommendations and conclusions elaborated in this field by the Vienna CSCE Follow-up Meeting 1986, the Bonn CSCE Conference and the Sofia CSCE Meeting, as well as the proceedings of ECE, taking into account the work of the International Law Commission, with a view to drawing up conventions on the protection and use of transboundary watercourses and international lakes and on the prevention and control of the transboundary effects of industrial accidents that could supplement and enhance the effectiveness of the arrangements set up by the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources, and also taking into account the ECE draft Convention on the Application of Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context;

(d) Encourage the efforts undertaken or under consideration by participating States and non-participating Mediterranean States to equip Mediterranean ports with reception facilities for ballast and bilge waters;

(e) Promote the establishment of national surveillance systems to control pollution from ships in accordance with the relevant international conventions on marine pollution;

(f) Encourage the Mediterranean States to adopt appropriate measures to establish the Mediterranean Sea as a special area with regard to garbage disposal at sea from ships, according to the principles established in the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Convention);

(g) Encourage efforts to develop a co-ordination system among the existing structures to respond to emergency alerts occurring in the Mediterranean Sea which could involve serious consequences for the marine environment, taking into account the work in ECE on elaboration of a legal instrument for the prevention and control of transboundary effects of industrial accidents and the Malta Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC);

(h) Call on the countries concerned to accede to and/or ratify the international conventions on marine pollution, particularly the MARPOL Convention, 1973, as modified by the 1978 Protocol, with Annexes I, II, III, IV and V, the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (London Dumping Convention) and the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972.

D. Recycling of waste water and the use of other new technologies to obtain water resources

In response to the growing needs of the population and of production sectors, the Mediterranean countries should take new measures to ensure the best possible use of available water resources. It is certainly time to step up the recycling of waste water.

Certain participating States and non-participating Mediterranean States have already developed techniques for the treatment and recycling of waste water - for agricultural and industrial purposes - the economic feasibility of which has been fully confirmed. Other treatment and desalination techniques for the supply of water to population groups suffering from severe shortage have also been developed.

The participating States should encourage:

(a) Research into the development of new technologies for the recycling and re-use of waste water and the creation of additional water resources, and exchange of the results of such research;

(b) The implementation of demonstration projects in this field and the exchange of experience between Mediterranean countries.

E. Desertification and measures to combat it, including parameters and techniques; initiatives in international co-operation in this field; the role of forest conservation and reforestation

Deforestation, soil erosion, inappropriate farming practices and unfavourable climatic conditions explain the scale of this problem in the Mediterranean Basin. Desertification control thus calls for the implementation of an overall strategy including reforestation and erosion-control measures and the development of farming practices better suited to soil type and climatic conditions. Research in this area should also be stepped up in order to improve understanding of the causes of desertification, including increased information, training and incentives for the farmers and herders concerned.

The participating States should:

(a) Promote the objective of a positive balance between the regeneration of plant cover and forest clearance by 1995;

(b) Promote campaigns to increase public awareness and expand demonstration projects to develop new farming practices compatible with soil protection;

(c) Step up the implementation of programmes to combat desertification, erosion and deforestation, and intensify co-operation for the development of research activities in this field;

(d) Encourage the establishment of programmes to prevent the erosion and degradation of limestone regions in view of their sensitivity and ecological fragility;

(e) Promote the dissemination and optimum use of the research findings on these subjects through, for example, the work initiated by the Sahara and Sahel Observatory.

F. International co-operation in the Mediterranean in preventing and extinguishing forest fires; the role of meteorology and communication networks; traditional and other techniques in the struggle against forest fires, including the use and international co-ordination of aerial means, land techniques, and standardization of fire-fighting methods; information and awareness campaigns

Forest firest represent one of the most serious environmental problems for the Mediterranean countries, in which hundreds of thousands of hectares of forest are destroyed by fire each year.

Action in this area should be based on an overall approach which includes the identification of causes, prevention, surveillance, fire-fighting and expanded co-operation in the field of research, particularly into the influence of climatic factors on the risk of fires, this being one aspect of the EPOCH programme.

The participating States should:

(a) Promote the establishment of integrated strategies for the prevention, surveillance and control of forest fires;

(b) Encourage regional co-operation for the creation of communication networks, including the exchange of meteorological data enabling fire-fighting measures to be made more effective, taking into account the work done by the European Community;

(c) Assist, where possible, the non-participating Mediterranean States in their efforts to acquire the adequate means to fight forest fires;

(d) Step up research into the causes of forest fires and the dissemination and use of findings;

(e) Encourage public-awareness campaigns on the danger of forest fires;

(f) Envisage the setting up of forms of co-operation with the participation of all Mediterranean countries.

G. Atmospheric problems, in particular air quality in urban centres and the effects of air pollution on historical monuments and biological ecosystems; typical sources of air pollution in Mediterranean countries and the Mediterranean share in long-range air pollution

In a number of Mediterranean towns and regions which have seen large-scale industrial development or very rapid population growth, atmospheric pollution levels are too high, particularly as a result of the increase in road traffic. This leads to excessive concentrations of various pollutants, including SO_2, NOx, COx, VOC, dust and photochemical ozone, which can cause damage to the historical and architectural heritage, lead to forest decline, threaten crops and natural vegetation and endanger human health.

The situation, moreover, could worsen if the Mediterranean countries do not adopt appropriate measures to prevent the deterioration of air quality which may result from economic and industrial development. It is also essential for the Mediterranean countries to take into consideration other requirements, in particular the need to contribute to the action to be taken to prevent global climatic change, which could have particularly dramatic effects on the Mediterranean Basin. It therefore appears necessary to implement co-ordinated policies to increase the use of renewable energy resources and the energy efficiency of non-renewable energy resources such as fossil fuels, without thereby compromising economic development.

The participating States undertake to:

(a) Promote, within for example the existing framework of activities such as the forthcoming second World Climate Conference and the Mediterranean Action Plan, studies and the establishment of a monitoring network for the Mediterranean on climate changes and on the effects of atmospheric pollutants and the elaboration of a programme to prevent adverse effects, and, in accordance with the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, to reinforce co-operative activities on air quality problems, including those associated with photochemical ozone and other secondary pollutants;

(b) Encourage measures to improve air quality in urban centres and surrounding areas;

(c) Encourage efforts for the abatement of atmospheric pollution in living spaces (indoor pollution) through new housing design, clean appliances, and building and furniture materials which do not release atmospheric pollutants;

(d) Encourage the exchange of information on improved technologies available for the reduction of air pollution and their application in existing plants and to the design of new industrial complexes as well as to the control of emissions from mobile sources;

(e) Intensify efforts to exchange atmospheric-pollution reduction technologies;

(f) Support the implementation of measures to improve energy efficiency, energy saving and the increased use of renewable energy sources;

(g) Improve the dissemination and application of the findings of research programmes on the effects of pollution on human health, the historical and architectural heritage, and ecosystems.

H. The biosphere and related questions of ecology and human activities; nature conservation; study of coastal and island areas including urban development

The Mediterranean coastal areas, which are among the richest in terms of the diversity of habitats, species and landscapes, are subject to growing pressure. Mediterranean coastal wetlands play an essential role in the maintenance of biological diversity; unfortunately, however, a significant proportion of them has disappeared as a result of human activities. For this reason the Genoa Declaration and the signatories to the Nicosia Charter attach special importance to the protection and management of the Mediterranean coast. A number of key international instruments aimed specifically at protecting internationally important species and their habitats have been introduced in recent years, including the Berne, Bonn and Ramsar Conventions, the Protocol to the Barcelona Convention concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas and the ECE and the European Community (EC) legal instruments.

The participating States undertake to:

(a) Co-operate with the non-participating Mediterranean States to encourage the establishment of more effective policies and appropriate instruments, such as environmental protection infrastructures for the integrated mangement of coastal areas;

(b) Support work under way to identify sensitive coastal areas in need of protection and to set up a geographical data base for the coastal zone also through remote-sensing monitoring systems;

(c) Support the work done by the General Council for Fisheries in the Mediterranean;

(d) Encourage the establishment of procedures for the assessment of the environmental impact of development projects in order to prevent possible negative effects, including appropriate consultations in the spirit of good-neighbourly relations with any State likely to be affected, taking into consideration the work of ECE;

(e) Give active support to the implementation of existing international instruments to protect key species and their habitats, in particular rare or endangered species;

(f) Promote the establishment of monitoring and integrated management plans for the most endangered biotopes, especially in coastal wetlands;

(g) Welcome the decision taken by, or under consideration in, some coastal States to ban pelagic driftnetting in the Mediterranean Sea;

(h) Note the commitment by signatories to the Barcelona Convention to adopt all appropriate measures for the protection of Posidonia oceanica communities and all other marine phanerogams that are essential plants for the Mediterranean ecosystems, and to undertake to control and to regulate trawling and other activities destructive to Posidonia bottoms and all other marine phanerogams.

I. Environmental aspects of the development of tourism

The development of tourism places severe stresses on the environment and on natural resources, particularly in the Mediterranean, where seasonal saturation, over-occupation of the coastline and the destruction of nature have already reached alarming proportions. The maintenance of environmental quality is a pre-condition for the establishment and development of a tourist industry. Greater international co-operation aimed at a balanced development of tourism in the Mediterranean should be promoted.

For this reason, the Mediterranean countries - for which tourism is one of the most important economic activities - have compelling reasons for drawing up and applying more effective environmental protection policies and promoting environmentally sound tourism. In particular, in co-operation with all countries concerned, they ought to take appropriate steps to reduce seasonal tourist congestion on the coast, such as promoting cultural and low-season tourism and providing tourist facilities inland.

The participating States declare their readiness to:

(a) Encourage the further development of integrated environmental-management programmes to assess in advance the environmental impact of tourist resorts;

(b) Co-operate in the efforts of the Mediterranean countries to ensure better seasonal distribution and more balanced geographical distribution of tourism in order to reduce the pressure on the coastline through the encouragement of different kinds of tourism (culture, conferences, health spas, sports tourism, etc.);

(c) Encourage the implementation of projects for the management and restoration of Mediterranean coastal areas damaged by tourism;

(d) Promote exchanges of information aimed at ensuring a suitable quality of bathing waters;

(e) Promote campaigns to inform tourists and make them aware of the need for responsible behaviour that respects the environment, using for this purpose, amongst other means, existing international organizations such as the World Tourism Organization.

J. Review and improvement of exchanges of information relating to the protection of the environment

The setting up of a co-ordinated information system on the state of the environment and of natural resources would facilitate the implementation of effective policies and the use of research and human resources in this field. Existing international organizations and institutions such as ECE, the Mediterranean Action Plan, UNEP and the newly established European Environment Agency, which is open to certain third countries, provide a basis for broadening and strengthening co-operation.

The exchange of information and experience relating to environmental protection between participating States and non-participating Mediterranean States should be improved.

Co-operation and exchange of information on nuclear-plant safety issues should be intensified.

The participating States should:

(a) Seek opportunities to co-operate, when appropriate, among themselves and with the non-participating Mediterranean States in the creation of data bases on the state of the environment and natural resources, especially in the priority areas listed in the Genoa Declaration and by the signatories to the Nicosia Charter;

(b) Promote exchanges of information and experience acquired in elaborating and implementing environmental-protection policies, drawing upon the experience of ECE, in particular its European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme (EMEP), and of other relevant bodies such as UNEP;

(c) Support the preparation of a document on the environmental rights of citizens as agreed in the Bergen Ministerial Declaration of 1990;

(d) Encourage the dissemination of information on new clean and pollution-control technologies, in particular through the UNEP Industry and Environment Office, ECE, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the newly established European Environment Agency and other appropriate bodies;

(e) Support the continuation of the activities carried out within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan;

(f) Encourage the exchange and dissemination of scientific information through institutions such as the International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea;

(g) Support the organization, in co-operation with the non-participating Mediterranean States, of training programmes for environmental experts;

(h) Encourage the consideration of the possible establishment by participating States and interested non-participating Mediterranean States of toxic-emission reporting programmes requiring that enterprises disclose to national and local officials information on the use, storage and routine or accidental release of toxic chemicals into the air, soil or water.

The representatives of the participating States express their profound gratitude to the people and Government of Spain for the excellent organization of the Palma de Mallorca Meeting and the warm hospitality extended to the delegations which participated in the Meeting.